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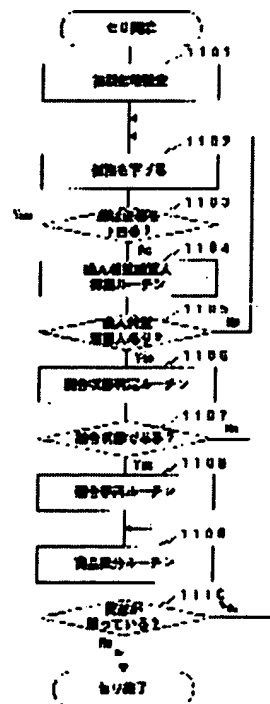
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(54) AUTOMATIC AUCTION METHOD

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To perform the auction transactions in an open network by displaying the auction object information received via an on-line circuit, producing the auction ordering information on a selected object, and transmitting this ordering information to an auction execution terminal via the on-line circuit.

SOLUTION: An initial price is set (1101) and then reduced by a prescribed amount (1102). If this reduced price is not lower than the lowest price (1103), a buyer of the corresponding commodity is searched via a purchase desiring person searching routine (1104). If the buyer is searched, the presence or absence of a conflict state is decided via a conflict state decision routine (1106). If no conflict state is confirmed (1107), the commodity is distributed to the relevant buyer via a commodity distribution routine (1109). If a conflict state is confirmed, the conflict state is canceled via a conflict cancel routine (1108) and the commodity is distributed to the relevant buyer (1109).



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